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(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): MOTOROLA INC. [US/US]; 1303 East Algonquin Road, Schaumburg, IL 60196 (US).			
(72) Inventors; and (75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): REBER, William, L. [US/US]; 1029 Buccaneer Road #6, Schaumburg, IL 60916 (US). ACKLEY, Donald, E. [US/US]; 2033 Cambridge Avenue, Cardiff, CA 92007 (US). PERTTUNEN, Cary, D. [US/US]; 11764 Raintree Court, Shelby Township, MI 48315 (US).			
(74) Agents: SARLI, Anthony, J., Jr. et al.; Motorola Inc., Intellectual Property Dept., 1303 East Algonquin Road, Schaumburg, IL 60196 (US).			

(54) Title: **METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR DETECTING PREDETERMINED MOLECULAR STRUCTURES IN A SAMPLE**

(57) Abstract

A predetermined molecular structure in a sample is detected by sensing a pattern in which the sample binds to an array of binding sites in a molecular detection device (20), and comparing the pattern to a reference pattern to detect the predetermined molecular structure in the sample (22). In one embodiment, the reference pattern is generated by sensing a pattern in which a reference sample containing the predetermined molecular structure binds to a like array of binding sites. In another embodiment, the reference pattern is generated by predicting a pattern in which the predetermined molecular structure binds to the array of binding sites.